

Hugh McLEAN

Biography as published in 1995

HUGH McLEAN bom 5/10/1866 at Strathalbyn.

Parents : Margaret McLean (nee Tannahill) & Hugh (the younger) McLean
Grandparents : Christina McLean (nee McPhee) & Donald McLean

Occupation: Saddler of Commercial Rd, Strathalbyn. (Directories).

Unmarried.

It is not clear as to whether he lived with his sister Mrs Keough or his elder brother Robert, probably with the latter.

DEATH: on 25/10/1929 aged 63 years. interred at Strathalbyn Cemetery.

HISTORY: At the present time he would be described as a manic depressive as he took his own life and a report of this appeared in the "Southem Argus": Thursday 31/10/1929.

"Mr Hugh McLean aged 63 years & grandson of three pioneer brothers (Note: he was a grandson of the original Donald McLean 8. nephew of four McLean brothers). He committed suicide on Friday last at his residence by hanging himself in the motor shed attached to the premises. The deceased had been in poor health for sometime past & had brooded on this. He had breakfast as usual with his brother Robert on Friday morning, he then went into the yard to cut wood & did not return for dinner but as he was in the habit of wandering off & spending the day away, no notice was taken of his absence. That he had not taken the dog was commented on.

About 6.30 the same evening his nephew Hugh Keough had occasion to go to the motor shed & found the door fastened from the inside. With his uncle Robert's assistance the bolt was turned & slipped back & when the door was opened the body of the deceased was found hanging from a rafter by a thin strong cord which had been knotted to it, & a cask alongside had evidently been used as a jump off. When found the body was stiff & cold. Death was instantaneous & had occurred some hours earlier. The feet were only a few inches from the ground.

Report was made to the police & the Coroner Mr J. W. Elliott & to Dr Formby who viewed the body. An Inquest was held on Saturday at the Court House 8. evidence was given by Hugh Keough (nephew) - Robert McLean (Uncle) - (note: Robert was brother to Hugh) - Mrs J. Muir (Aunt) & Sergeant Redpath. The verdict was that the deceased took his own life while of unsound mind."

Mrs Jemima Muir has been mentioned earlier as being a sister of Margaret Tannahill, wife of Hugh the Younger. Mrs Muir was born in England in 1853 8. came to South Australia by the ship "Queen of Nations" in 1877.

- SOURCE : This biography is an extract from "The History of Donald & Christina McLean and Their Descendants" which was published in 1995 – page 548.
- COLONIALISTS : Christina and Donald McLean and their ten children migrated from Argyllshire to South Australia in 1837. This was in the earliest years of the colony. The McLeans initially settled near Adelaide where they grew the first wheat crop in SA. Then in about 1840 they pioneered the Strathalbyn area. There are now well over 20,000 descendants spread across Australia and elsewhere.
- CHANGES : Please contact us with additions, corrections or suggestions about any part of this family tree.
- CONTACT : Visit our website www.christinaanddonaldmclean.com or Strathalbyn Museum phone 08 8536 2656 to discover more about your family – and about privacy and copyright.